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Attorney Docket No. 1033-T00539

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David Patron, et al.

Title: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ACCESSING NETWORK AND DATA SERVICES

App. No.: 10/669,122

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Commissioner for Patents

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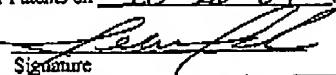
REMARKS IN SUPPORT OF THE PRE-APPEAL BRIEF
REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed July 18, 2007, (hereinafter, "Final Office Action") and further pursuant to the Notice of Appeal and Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review submitted herewith, Applicants respectfully request review and reconsideration of the Final Office Action in view of the following issues.

1. The Asserted Reference Is Missing an Element of Each of the Claims

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2002/0176579 A1 ("Deshpande"), at paragraph 2 of the Final Office Action. The asserted reference of Deshpande fails to disclose or suggest an authorization engine operable to grant access to both transport services and federated data services of federated data service providers in response to authorization of a first set of credentials, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Deshpande discloses one or more authentication servers 50 that confirm authorization, enabling a device to request location-based services from one or more location-based services

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servers 60 or one or more application servers 160, and application services including e-mail, contact, task list and calendar from one or more exchange servers. *See* Deshpande, paragraphs 0020 and 0022. Servers 60, 150 and 160 are not federated data service providers and do not provide federated data services. Federated data service providers can include, e.g., a collection of independently managed, heterogeneous systems that allow partial and controlled sharing of data without affecting existing applications. Deshpande does not disclose or suggest the use of federated data services of federated data service providers. Hence, Deshpande does not disclose each and every element of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1, and are therefore allowable, at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable claim 1.

Further, the dependent claims recite additional features that are not disclosed by the cited references. For example, Deshpande does not disclose a federation engine operable to maintain information that indicates members of a service provider federation, the service provider federation including a first service provider and a different service provider, as recited in claim 6. Instead, Deshpande discloses a hotspot service provider network including one or more hotspot access points, which are locations where a wireless access point is located to provide access to a corporate intranet or to the Internet. *See* Deshpande, paragraph 0019. Deshpande also discloses that hotspot service network provider usage may be billed through a user's Internet service provider or mobile phone service provider. *See* Deshpande, paragraph 0029. Deshpande does not disclose a federation engine operable to maintain information that indicates members of a service provider federation. For this additional reason, claim 6 is allowable.

The asserted reference of Deshpande fails to disclose or suggest a network data service provided by a federated web-based data service provider, as recited in claim 7. As explained above with reference to claim 1, Deshpande does not disclose or suggest a federated data service provider. Therefore, Deshpande does not disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 7. Hence, claim 7 is allowable. Claims 8-10 depend from claim 7, and are therefore allowable, at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable claim 7.

The asserted reference of Deshpande fails to disclose or suggest a network data service that is provided by a federated web-based data service provider, as recited in claim 11. As

explained above with reference to claim 1, Deshpande does not disclose or suggest a federated data service provider. Therefore, claim 11 is allowable.

The asserted reference of Deshpande fails to disclose or suggest a computer-readable medium having computer-readable data to receive an input requesting retrieval of information associated with a network data service that is provided by a federated web-based data service provider, as recited in claim 12. As explained above, Deshpande does not disclose or suggest a federated data service provider. Therefore, claim 12 is allowable.

The asserted reference of Deshpande fails to disclose or suggest a network access system including an authorization engine communicatively coupled to a broad communications network and operable to issue an authentication token to an electronic device communicatively coupled to at least one of a plurality of hotspots, the authentication token operable as a valid indicator of access rights to both transport services and federated data services of federated data service providers, as recited in claim 13. Instead, Deshpande discloses that if a device registers with an intranet connected to one or more hotspot access points, the device's access privileges are confirmed with one or more authentication servers 140. See Deshpande, paragraph 0022. Deshpande does not disclose or suggest access rights to federated data services of federated data service providers. Further, Deshpande does not disclose an authentication token operable as a valid indicator of access rights to both transport services and federated data services of federated data service providers. Therefore, Deshpande does not disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 13. Hence, claim 13 is allowable. Claims 14-20 depend from claim 13 and are therefore allowable, at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable claim 13.

Further, the dependent claims recite additional features that are not disclosed by the cited references. For example, Deshpande does not disclose a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of information associated with a valid user with a first federated data service provider, as recited in claim 16. Instead, Deshpande discloses an intranet including hotspot access points, with authentication being handed off when a device changes access points. See Deshpande, paragraph 0042.

Further, Deshpande does not disclose that valid user information is operable to facilitate access to a federated data service without additional sign on operations by the user requesting

access, as recited in claim 17. Instead, Deshpande discloses that upon authentication, subsequent handshaking of a device with another access point of a hotspot intranet will not require the user/device to supply identification and/or authentication information for access to intranet services provided there is a current connection between the device and the intranet. See Deshpande, paragraph 0037. Deshpande does not disclose access to a federated data service. For this additional reason, claim 17 is allowable.


CONCLUSION

Applicants have pointed out specific features of the claims not disclosed, suggested, or rendered obvious by the references applied in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the pending claims

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

10-16-2007
Date


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